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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/347,427	07/06/1999	RODNEY L. CLARK	M3477.0000/P	3839

24998 7590 10/22/2002

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP
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EXAMINER

VARGOT, MATHIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1732

20

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/347,427

Applicant(s)

CLARK et al.

Examiner

M. VARGOT

Group Art Unit

1732

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/5/02

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 3-5, 7-9 + 12-20 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) 5, 7-9 + 15-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 3, 4, 12-14 + 17-20 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:

☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received

in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I, claims 3, 4, 12-14 and 17-20 in Paper No. 19 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the number of claims is limited and that the search is in the same class. This is not found persuasive because the subject matter being claimed is capable of supporting different patents if allowed, regardless of whether the groups of claims would be searched in the same class or that the number of claims is limited.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 4, 12-14 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishida et al in view of Maus et al -221.

Ishida et al is applied for reasons of record, the reference essentially lacking the aspect of mold pins for defining the mold cavities and that such pins would be in the first unit and define the thickness of the mold. Newly found reference to Maus et al -221 shows mold pins 4 and 5 contained within either/both sides of a mold and the spacing between these pins is adjustable so that the pins define the thickness of the mold. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the method and mold of Ishida et al with mold pins as taught by Maus et al -221 to facilitate the formation of different thickness lenses.

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3. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

While applicant's comments directed to previously applied Pinsonneault are persuasive, it is submitted that the mold pins shown in Maus et al -221 are closer in spirit to the instant mold pins and such are clearly known in the optical molding art.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Vargot whose telephone number is 703 308-2621.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308-0661.

M. Vargot

October 19, 2002

M. Vargot
MATHIEU D. VARGOT
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1300

10/19/02